

## SWAMP FOX SCENE



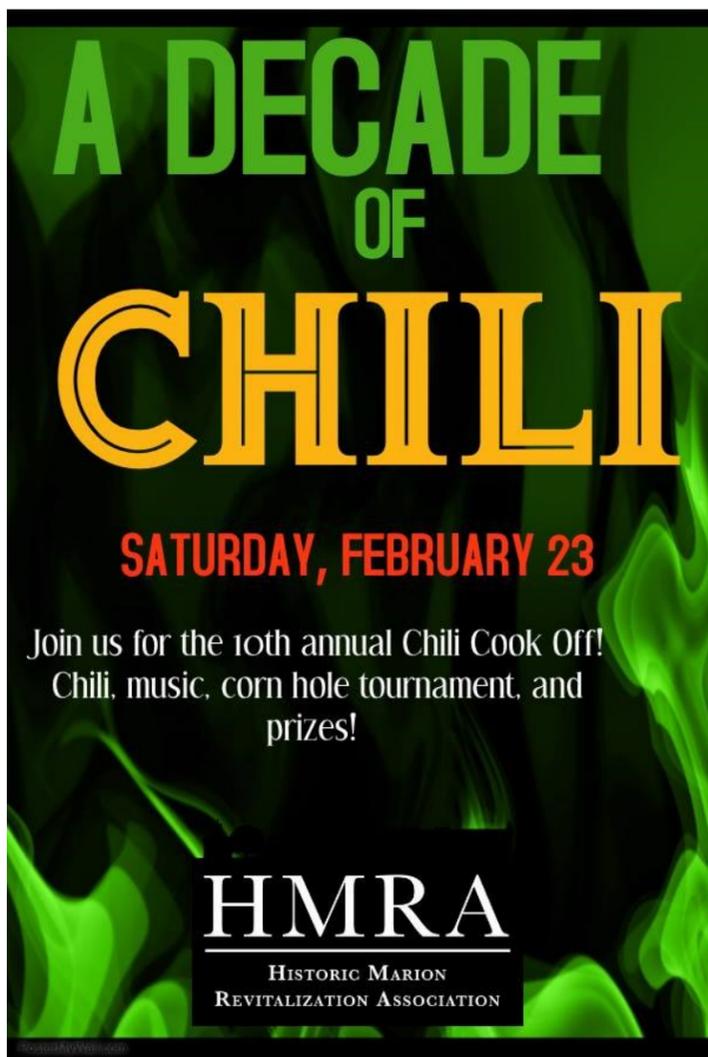
A FREE monthly news magazine for the citizens and visitors of the Swamp Fox City

Volume 8, Issue 9

February 2019

### 10th Annual Swamp Fox Chili Cook off

HMRA is excited the about the 10th Annual Swamp Fox Chili Cook off. The Chili Cook Off festivities will begin at 2:00 p.m. Cornhole Tournament entry fee is \$40 per team. Grab a friend and try your hand at winning \$500, \$200, or \$100 dollars. At 3:00 p.m. Chili Cookers will be ready to serve up their masterpieces at a chance to win \$1,000, \$500, or \$250 dollars. Do you think you have what it takes? Is your chili up for the challenge? Do you have a few friends that you would like to gather together and perfect a recipe to join in the fun with? Call the office (843) 423-9918 or register **FOR FREE** online at <http://www.the-swampfox.org/chili-cook-off-rules>.



There will be entertainment for the entire family. Music during the cornhole and cook off will be provided by the band Spazmatic at the Main Street Commons from 5:00-8:00 p.m. Food vendor will also be on site. Would your nonprofit group like to earn **50% profit** by selling tickets to the Chili Cook Off? Contact the office (843)

423-9918 or email us at [hmra@theswampfox.org](mailto:hmra@theswampfox.org).

### HISTORIC MARION 9th RUNFEST

The RunFest will again have its 5k Run/Walk and Tot Trot races through our Historic District and numerous residential areas on February 23, 2019. Events: 9:00 a.m. 5k Run/Walk and Tot Trot, 10:15 am. For details, see our website at [www.rmssports.com/run.html](http://www.rmssports.com/run.html)

Please register for the RunFest online at [www.rmssports.com/run.html](http://www.rmssports.com/run.html) or pickup your application at City Hall.

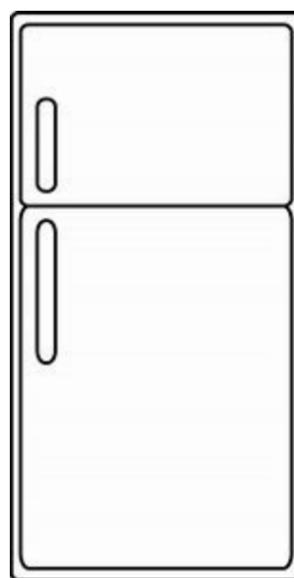
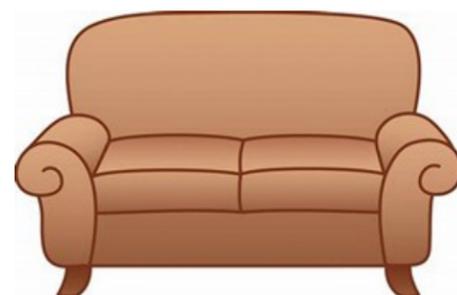
**After the awards ceremonies head over to the Public Square on Main Street for the Annual Swamp Fox Chili Cook-off!**

Music during the cornhole and cook off provided by the band Spazmatic.

### Attention Residents

Yard debris will be picked up Monday thru Friday. If you see a white flag, please move yard debris to the designated area. **(Away from utilities)**

Brown and white goods will be pickup on **Wednesday and Thursday ONLY**.



For more information contact City Hall at (843) 423-5961

### February 7th last day for candidates

The City Council for Districts 1, 2 and 4 will be held on Tuesday, April 9th. Filing for candidates began on Wednesday, Jan. 9th at noon and closes on Friday, Feb. 8th at noon. **There is no filing fee.** The last day to register to vote in the April election is March 10th and you must live within the **Districts**. To find out more about having a proper ID to vote, visit the Marion County Voter Registration and Election Commission at 2523 E Hwy 76 or call Teresa Moody at 423-8268.

Additionally, political signs may only be displayed on private property. City ordinances prohibit the placement of signs on public property, including the right of way.

Signs picked up for being improperly posted will be collected and can be claimed by candidates at the Marion Fire Department on Bond Street.

Remember every vote makes a difference.

### Martin Luther King Jr., Celebration

On behalf of the citizens of the City of Marion and the surrounding Pee Dee area, Mayor Ashley Brady and the City Council of Marion, would like to extend a thank you to Bishop Michael A. Blue and The Door of Hope Christian Church for hosting the 2019 Dr. Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Program. In spite of the cold weather we had a large attendance to remember the life and unity mission of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



Congratulations to Marion County School District students Abbigale Parks – Creek Bridge, Brittany Brumbles – Mullins High and Aundrea Gibbons – Marion High School. These young ladies were recognized as the Dr. Marion Luther King Jr. Unity Day essay contest winners. The three seniors each received a \$500 scholarship.

The Swamp Fox Scene is the City of Marion’s Free monthly newspaper for citizens and visitor’s of the Swamp Fox City, Marion, South Carolina. Printed by Herald Multiforms in Dillon, city employees produce and distribute the newspaper.

The Marion Chamber and HMRA help pay printing costs.

A PDF version is available by e-mail or online. For more information about the newspaper, call Mayor Ashley Brady or City Administrator Alan Ammons at (843) 423-5961.

### NEED HELP?

Call City Hall, 843-423-5961, unless otherwise noted, and one of the following will be able to help you.

- Mayor Ashley Brady, (843) 992-3773
- Alan Ammons, City Administrator & Building Official, Ext. 19
- Gwendolyn Davis, City Clerk, Ext. 10
- Patricia Brown, City Treasurer, Ext. 18
- Ainsley Sanders, Administrative Assistant, Ext. 11
- Elizabeth Gray, Personnel & Purchasing Director, (843) 423-8614
- Vickie J. Nichols, Grant Writing & Publicist, Ext. 22
- Cliff Wilbanks, Recreation Director, (843) 423-5410
- Randy Brown, Maintenance Superintendent (843) 423-5961
- Winkie Fore, Public Works Superintendent (843) 423-8648
- Tony Flowers, Police Chief (843) 423-8616
- Chris Smith, Captain (843) 423-8616
- Lt. Marilyn Rogers, Investigator (843) 423-8616
- Sgt. Derrick Smith, Investigator (843) 423-8616
- Trey Cooper, Fire Chief, (843) 423-8602
- Jackie Yates, Assistant Fire Chief (843) 423-8602
- Heather Evans, Municipal Court Clerk, (843) 423-8616
- Almeta Mullins, Victim Advocate / Administrative Assistant, (843) 423-8616



**February 5th**  
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. **Rains.** Marion Bookmobile.

**February 7th**  
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. **Mullins Library** Marion Bookmobile.

**February 11th** 9:30 a.m. **Storytime** at Mullins Library.

**February 12th**  
6:30 p.m. **City Council Meeting**, Council Chambers

**February 12th**  
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. **Marion Library** Marion Bookmobile.

**February 13th**  
4:00 p.m. **Craftmoon** at Marion Library.

**February 14th**  
9:30 a.m. **Storytime** at Marion Library.

**February 14th**  
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. **Gresham / Brittons Neck.** Marion Bookmobile.

**February 16th**  
5:30 p.m. **Relay for Life Valentine’s Banquet** - Marion Opera House.

**February 19th**  
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. **Centenary / Ariels Crossroads.** Marion Bookmobile.

**February 21st**  
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. **Nichols.** Marion Bookmobile

**February 23rd**  
9:00 a.m. **The 9th Annual Historic Marion Run-fest**, (Marion Fire Department) 107 E. Bond St, Marion. 5k Run/Walk and Tot Trot. For details, see our website at [www.rmssports.com/run.html](http://www.rmssports.com/run.html)

**February 23rd**  
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. **Main Street Commons – Cornhole Tournament.** 3:00 p.m. **Main Street Commons – 10th Annual Chili Cook off.** Chili Cookers will be ready to serve up their masterpieces. For details contact Stephanie Indergaard, at (843) 423-9918 or [hmra@theswamptox.org](mailto:hmra@theswamptox.org)  
5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. **Main Street Commons – Live Entertainment.** Music provided by **Spazmatic.**

**February 25th** - 9:30 a.m. **Storytime** at Mullins Library.

**February 26th**  
3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. **Friendship.** Marion Bookmobile.

**February 27th**  
**1:00 p.m. Francis Marion Memorial Day Wreath-laying**, General Francis Marion statue on Main Street. Inclement weather would move this into the C.D. Joyner Arts Center on Elizabeth Street.

**February 28th**  
9:30 a.m. **Storytime** at Marion Library.

**February 28th**  
3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. **Sellers/Zion (Sellers Community Center).** Marion Bookmobile.

### Moody is city's employee of the Month



The City of Marion is pleased to announce Richard Moody its December 2018 Employee of the Month. Richard Moody has been employed with the City of Marion since 2009. He began in the Sanitation Department and transferred to his current position at the Marion Recreation Department as custodian for our many recreation facilities and buildings in the fall of 2017.

Richard is a great employee and a huge asset to the Marion Recreation Department. He is always kind, friendly and willing to help out wherever he can. Richard has been named Employee of the Month 4 times and was recognized on each occasion by city officials for his strong work ethic and positive attitude, and he was named the City's 2017 Employee of the Year.

Richard is also employed part-time with the Marion Presbyterian Church. He and his wife, Brenda, are lifelong residents of Marion.

The Mayor and Council recognized Richard Moody for his dedication and contributions to the City of Marion at the January 8<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting.

### Marion Chamber announces Yard of the Month



Jacqueline McGill has been awarded the Marion Chamber of Commerce Yard of the Month for January 2019. The Chamber is proud to recognize those in our community that work so diligently, and add so much to our community's unique character. Ms. McGill will receive a Marion Chamber of Commerce Chamber Check in recognition of this honor.

**Relay for Life of Marion County** is "Wishing Upon a Cure" in 2019, and as we celebrate 25+ years in Marion County we want EVERYONE to join us! If you or someone you know has ever participated in Relay for Life or has ever wanted to participate, we want you and need you. If you are a SURVIVOR we have a Survivor's Team, we have events just for our Survivors and FREE t-shirts are available if you are signed up. Please, register today at [www.relayforlife.org/marionsc](http://www.relayforlife.org/marionsc) so you'll receive notices of upcoming gatherings, events, activities and more. At this time we are planning stages of: a Womanless Man Pageant, our First Annual Relay for Life Color Run, Paint Parties and our Survivor's Dinner. Relay for life of Marion County will be held on Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 a.m. Until 10:00 p.m. at Withlacoochee Park in Marion. We will have FREE entertainment and games, food vendors, teams selling items and much more. All money raised will go to American Cancer Society. Please, come join us and let's make this the Relay one to remember. For more information or help signing up feel free to call Dana Graham at 843-254-0412. "Wish Upon a Cure" with me!  
Thank you,  
Dana Graham, Relay for Life of Marion County Co-Lead

### Marion Chamber Book Project

The Marion Chamber of Commerce needs your help. Again this school year we would like to present to each third grader in the Marion County School System and Pee Dee Academy the book "Francis Marion and the Legend of The Swamp Fox" by Kate Salley Palmer for their personal library. We feel this project will have a two-fold impact - impressing the importance of reading and also to give our county's young people a chance to see just how important our county was in the history of our nation.

Over the last seven years we have placed over 2900 books in the third graders hands - every third grader in Marion County. We estimate the number of third graders for this school year will be approximately the same. A contribution of \$100 will help us place 10 books or any amount you feel you could give. We will present the books in late March 2019. A book plate inside each book will identify the sponsors of this project. We hope that you will consider being a part of this program. Your support and assistance will be appreciated. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

For important on how to donation please contact Cindy Rogers at the Marion Chamber of Commerce, 843-423-3561.

### Marion's 2nd Annual St. Patrick's Day Festival

Leprechaun Leap is the City of Marion's second annual St. Patrick's Day Festival!. The 15K event, which will be timed by RMS Sports, may be performed individual or as a 3-person relay. Run participants are encouraged to dress in green or in their favorite St. Patrick's Day attire Awards will be presented to the overall winners in each age group of individuals competing in the 15k and to the top 3-person relay team.

You can signup at [active.com](http://active.com) or [www.mssports.com/run.html](http://www.mssports.com/run.html).

Following the run, the City of Marion will host a St. Patrick's Day themed golf-cart parade with a prize awarded to the best decorated St. Patrick's Day Cart. This is event will be March 9th from 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. at 800 N. Withlacoochee, Marion SC.

For more details email [hometownpromotionseventplanning.com](http://hometownpromotionseventplanning.com)

### A-TEAM NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

"We Are Our Neighbors' Keepers"  
By: Dolly Boyer

As we enter a new year, I would like to challenge the citizens of Marion. Don't be one of those people that sits on the sidelines complaining and thinks negatively. Instead stand up and look around your neighborhood. Identify the things that need improvement. Don't ask, "why someone doesn't fix that?" Ask yourself "why not me?" Make the choice to do something to make things better. If you see old cars with no tags, that haven't moved in forever, take down the address. If you see a streetlight is out, write down the pole number or address if no number is visible. Report this information to City Hall and they will handle them. If you see litter, pick it up. Doing these things make you part of the solution. Make no mistake, if you choose to do nothing, you are part of the problem. Apathy is what plagues our neighborhoods. Live the slogan, "love where you live". There is a direct correlation between how an area is maintained and the crime rate. The worst message we can send criminals is "we don't care". The message we want to send criminals, visitors and each other is "WE CARE". Invest one hour to find out what we are all about. A-Team meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month. Our next meeting will be February 4<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 in the firehouse on E Bond St. We have informative guests and an open forum. We make every effort to keep the meeting to one hour including time for fellowship and refreshments.

If you are interested in forming a group in your area, we will be glad to assist. For more information call Dolly @ 843-433-0941. A-Team lives our motto, "we are our neighbors' keepers".

Happy New Year's!

.....**HAPPENING IN MARION** .....

**Jackson & McGill Funeral Home Recognized**



Mayor Ashley Brady and Marion City Council recognized Jackson & McGill Funeral Home during the January 8<sup>th</sup> council meeting for their 90 years of faithful and dedicated service to our community. The Jackson Funeral Home of Marion, SC was founded in 1928 by the late Mr. Henry L. Jackson. After the passing of Mr. Jackson his daughter, Mrs. Jacqueline Jackson McGill, and her husband, the late Rev. Henry McGill, Jr., became owners of the funeral home in 1970. It was during this time that the name was changed to Jackson & McGill Funeral Home. The McGill family has now maintained the Jackson & McGill Funeral Home for nearly 50 years. Mrs. Poiette McGill Bromell currently serves as their Funeral Director, Embalmer & Pre-Need Insurance Agent.

For the past 90 years, five generations of the Jackson & McGill families and their Funeral Home have provided funeral services with compassion, dignity and respect. They are leaders in the Marion community and remain committed to promoting diversity and providing guidance to youth while drawing wisdom from the elders.

**City's Playgrounds**

The following City of Marion playgrounds provide free fun and are open to the public:

**Withlacoochee Park**

Withlacoochee Ave - This park has a walking track and playground equipment. This site holds Marion's Tennis Courts.

**Grice's Recreation Center**

603 Gurley Street - The playground has been updated with new playground equipment. This site also has a basketball court behind the center and is near the walking track.

**Tilghman Park**

409 Montgomery Street - It also has slides, hobby horses, swings and a merry-go-round.

**Check us out online!**

The City of Marion Recreation Department is on Facebook and online. For information and updates on games scheduling, cancellation and pictures. Visit the [www.marionsc.gov](http://www.marionsc.gov) web site. Find us under "Residents" and then click on "Recreation". To Find us on Facebook, visit **Marion Recreation Department!**

**City Rentals**

We are starting a **NEW YEAR**, which means the NEW rental calendar is accepting reservations for Grice's, Shannon Wilkerson Gymnasium and Watsonia Recreation facilities. These facilities hold up to 150 people are equipped with warming kitchens, heating/air and restrooms. Also, Pop Dorsey Picnic Shelter located on **Green Street** for those looking for an outside event. Make sure that you get your event booked as soon as possible. So to reserve your date for that special occasion give us a call at (843) 423-5410

**Senior Bingo**

We offer Senior Bingo the on first & third Thursday of each month from 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. at Watsonia Recreation. Bingo is **FREE** of charge and we welcome newcomers to come join in on the fun. We offer prizes for the winners and refreshments for you to enjoy while playing. We do have a 2 card playing limit. Come check us out and bring some friends to join in.

**CDJ Aerobics**

Aerobics classes are offered Monday thru Friday evening, from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. at CD Joyner. Taught by Ms. Lillie Ann Sanders, the classes are \$30 per month. For information or details, call Recreation Department at 423-5410.

**Ping Pong Club**

Don't forget that Marion Recreation holds a Ping Pong Club every Monday & Wednesday from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm. You can come by on one of these days and freshen up on your ping pong skills, watch some games or learn how to play. For details, call 423-5410.

**Senior Aerobics at Watsonia Center**

Senior Aerobics has resumed and there are still some spots for newcomers. Classes are on Monday and Thursday, from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. The instructor is Ms. Lillie Sanders. All classes are **FREE**, but donations are appreciated to help defer cost of the class. If you haven't participated before, please come out and register at the Marion Recreation Department.



Be part of a lifesaving journey.  
**Donate blood.**

**BLOOD DRIVE**

*Sponsored by the Marion County Sheriff's Office*

**When: Wednesday Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>**

**Time: 10:00am - 3:00pm**

**Where: Marion County Admin Building  
In the Conference Room**

**To schedule an appointment please call Tammy  
at 843-423-8389 go to  
[WWW.REDCROSSBLOOD.ORG](http://WWW.REDCROSSBLOOD.ORG)  
Sponsor code: MarionSheriffs**

Download the Blood Donor App | [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) | 1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767

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Contact Victim Advocate Tammy Erwin for more details at (843) 423-8389.

**Celebrating Black History Month**

Did you know that Aretha Franklin and her iconic, powerhouse voice was the first African American woman to be inducted into the **Rock and Roll Hall of Fame**, she was the first woman. Period.